

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. J. David Benenati, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. J. David Benenati, Mrs. Christina Livers, and Dr. Janet O'Hara. Mr. Timothy Goergen arrived at 7:15 pm. Ms. Melanie Eppich was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner, Daniel Mix, Personal Health Services Director and Michael Tusick, Registered Sanitarian.

Others present: Maren Wolfe, Debbie Maggard and Brad Moritz, M.D.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Benenati asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the minutes for the February 21, 2012 regular Board of Health meeting with the following changes: Page 2, paragraph 1, replace the word "nice" with "well prepared and presented."; Page 3, item b, add "being ill" after "Due to Mr. Leslie"; Page 5, paragraph 8 under New Business, change the word "went" to "gone". **Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.**

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the Current Expenses February 14, 2012 to March 14, 2012. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack stated that the issue of fracking was the topic of an article in a recent issue of The Nation's Health. This is a global publication. The article reports on many of the different facets of fracking such as the cost of the fracking and what the economic and health impacts could be. The article stresses the importance of taking time to explore all the aspects of fracking to be sure that it is right for the environment.

Mr. Weisdack is still in contact with his colleagues who are on the sewage rules committee. They have indicated that the State is still not considering any other suggestions. Mr. Weisdack is also in contact with the assistant director of health who has indicated that he is not pleased with the sewage rules committee either.

Mr. Weisdack recently received a request from Ohio EPA asking him to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Board's behalf to issue permits for NPDES systems. Signing the MOU will also require Geauga County Health District to inspect these systems every year. Mr. Weisdack stated that he does not feel this MOU should be signed. The Board agreed.

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the number and type of sewage disposal permits issued.

a. General Information

Mr. Weisdack provided the Board with some nationwide statistics from NACCHO. It stated in 2011, 57% of all health districts had to make cuts to important programs such as emergency preparedness and child and maternal services. This is a larger percentage than any twelve-month period since the recession began. Since 2008, local health districts across the country have lost nearly 40,000 jobs due to layoffs or not replacing employees that had quit or retired. Approximately 41% of the local health districts have reported that their budgets are lower than in previous years and are expecting further cuts.

Mr. Weisdack stated that the For Sale of Property program has been instrumental in keeping the Geauga County Health District from having to make drastic cuts.

Mr. Weisdack had a meeting with the Geauga County Health District staff in regards to evaluations and salary increases. Mr. Weisdack provided an example of the evaluation form to the Board.

The staff was instructed to do self-evaluations using the updated evaluation form. The supervisors will then evaluate their staff. Mr. Weisdack will review the evaluations once completed. Mr. Weisdack stated he is planning to have all the information to present to the Board at the April or May 2012 regular meeting of the Board.

Mr. Weisdack met with our Public Entities Pool of Ohio liability insurance representative. He conducted a site visit and asked for documentation for many different items. Mr. Weisdack received a letter stating there were no recommendations.

VI. Variance

a. Mareen Wolfe

Debra Maggard and Mareen Wolfe were present and sworn in by Mr. Benenati. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Mareen Wolfe for the property located at 7428 Chagrin Rd., Bainbridge Twp. The request involves the section 3701-28-07(H), J (2) and (3) of the Private Water Well Regulations.

Section 3701-28-07(H) states that a well location must be located at least five feet from the edge of a private driveway.

Section 3701-28-07(J) (2) states that a well location must be a minimum of 50 feet from a sewage tank.

Section 3701-28-07(J) (3) states that a well location must be a minimum of 50 feet from a sewage absorption field.

(Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the variance as requested. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

VII. Administrative Hearings

a. Jerry Meeks, Eric Brindo, Biagio Conti, Jr., Jody & Nicole Clinger, Martin Prendergast, Eleni Costantini, Margaret Schultz, Otis & Deborah Meeks, John & Laura Maike, Steven & Rachel Miller, David & Anna Hostetler, Michael Colucci, Jonas & Elizabeth Byler, Craig Cooley, Jeffrey & Karen Hazen, Sarmira Salim, Thomas Schoonover, and Mr. & Mrs. James Leslie

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by Jerry Meeks, 9074 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp., NJD, 9298 Bainbridge Rd., Bainbridge Twp., Eric Brindo, 12785 Bass Lake Rd.,

Munson Twp., Biagio Conti, Jr., 14794 Briarwood Ave., Newbury Twp., Jody & Nicole Clinger, 12202 Brookview Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Martin Prendergast, 12216 Brookview Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Eleni Costantini, 15150 Burton Windsor Rd., Burton Twp., Margaret Schultz, 14731 Elm Dr., Newbury Twp., Otis & Deborah Meeks, 10151 Mulberry Rd., Munson Twp., John & Laura Maike, 17935 Mumford Rd., Troy Twp., Steven & Rachel Miller, 15471 Nash Rd., Parkman Twp., David & Anna Hostetler, 16945 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield Twp., Michael Colucci, 9899 Old State Rd., Hambden Twp., Jonas & Elizabeth Byler, 17826 Peters Rd., Middlefield Twp., Craig Cooley, 16041 Rock Creek Rd., Thompson Twp., Jeffrey & Karen Hazen, 11729 Sherman Rd., Munson Twp., Samira Salim, 13295 Sperry Rd., Chester Twp., Thomas Schoonover, 11944 Woodin Rd., Chardon Twp., and Mr. & Mrs. James Leslie, 12932 Chardon Windsor Rd., Hambden Twp.

These cases are in regards to section 3701-29-22(A) of the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations that states, "An evaluation of a residential sewage system must be completed prior to the transfer of ownership of any parcel with said system. The evaluation shall be conducted by a member of the Health District and if necessary corrective action(s) required shall be accomplished within the time period(s) directed." Discussion followed.

Mrs. Livers moved that a code violation exists on the properties owned Jerry Meeks, 9074 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp., NJD, 9298 Bainbridge Rd., Bainbridge Twp., Eric Brindo, 12785 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp., Biagio Conti, Jr., 14794 Briarwood Ave., Newbury Twp., Jody & Nicole Clinger, 12202 Brookview Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Martin Prendergast, 12216 Brookview Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Eleni Costantini, 15150 Burton Windsor Rd., Burton Twp., Margaret Schultz, 14731 Elm Dr., Newbury Twp., Otis & Deborah Meeks, 10151 Mulberry Rd., Munson Twp., John & Laura Maike, 17935 Mumford Rd., Troy Twp., Steven & Rachel Miller, 15471 Nash Rd., Parkman Twp., David & Anna Hostetler, 16945 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield Twp., Michael Colucci, 9899 Old State Rd., Hambden Twp., Jonas & Elizabeth Byler, 17826 Peters Rd., Middlefield Twp., Craig Cooley, 16041 Rock Creek Rd., Thompson Twp., Jeffrey & Karen Hazen, 11729 Sherman Rd., Munson Twp., Samira Salim, 13295 Sperry Rd., Chester Twp., Thomas Schoonover, 11944 Woodin Rd., Chardon Twp., and Mr. & Mrs. James Leslie, 12932 Chardon Windsor Rd., Hambden Twp. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved that Jerry Meeks, 9074 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp., NJD, 9298 Bainbridge Rd., Bainbridge Twp., Eric Brindo, 12785 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp., Biagio Conti, Jr., 14794 Briarwood Ave., Newbury Twp., Jody & Nicole Clinger, 12202 Brookview Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Martin Prendergast, 12216 Brookview Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Eleni Costantini, 15150 Burton Windsor Rd., Burton Twp., Margaret Schultz, 14731 Elm Dr., Newbury Twp., Otis & Deborah Meeks, 10151 Mulberry Rd., Munson Twp., John & Laura Maike, 17935 Mumford Rd., Troy Twp., Steven & Rachel Miller, 15471 Nash Rd., Parkman Twp., David & Anna Hostetler, 16945 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield Twp., Michael Colucci, 9899 Old State Rd., Hambden Twp., Jonas & Elizabeth Byler, 17826 Peters Rd., Middlefield Twp., Craig Cooley, 16041 Rock Creek Rd., Thompson Twp., Jeffrey & Karen Hazen, 11729 Sherman Rd., Munson Twp., Samira Salim, 13295 Sperry Rd., Chester Twp., Thomas Schoonover, 11944 Woodin Rd., Chardon Twp., and Mr. & Mrs. James Leslie, 12932 Chardon Windsor Rd., Hambden Twp. be required to make application, pay for, schedule, and complete a For Sale of Property evaluation and/or obtain the necessary permits and install a new sewage disposal system within 30 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to follow these orders will result in referral to the prosecutor's office for legal action. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

VIII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The staff is preparing for the first assessment of the CDC the week of May 7, 2012. Part of the assessment is to update the Open POD sites at local schools including Cardinal, West Geauga, Kenston and Chardon. This includes updating 24/7 contact information, building layouts and material handling equipment. Plans for security at these sites will be reviewed with the Geauga County Sheriff's Dept. and local police. Security training will take place on May 7, 2012. Plans to transport medical supplies between POD sites will be coordinated with Geauga County DES and Geauga County Engineers as well as POD training for the engineer's office staff.

As of March 2, 2012, the City of Cleveland will be responsible for ordering emergency antibiotic supplies such as Doxycycline and Ciprofloxacin for the Geauga County First Responder cache. This cache will be securely stored at the Geauga County Health District and will be used only at the direction of ODH and NE Region planners.

Mr. Mix reported that the Intent to Apply for the 2013GY PHEP has been submitted. The funding level is anticipated to be a 4% increase over 2011. In addition, we have received notice that we will receive at least \$20,000.00 this year because some of the money the state kept was not needed.

The number of disease surveillance cases has increased overall, but nothing extraordinary and there are no current outbreaks. Mr. Mix stated that they feel the increase is due to better electronic reporting.

b. Nursing Services

The staff has participated in several trainings including lead poisoning and environmental factor concerns in the home.

The staff have also been updating guidelines for field triage, 2012 adult immunization schedule, updated HPV recommendations for males, new guidelines for the assessment of Alzheimer's patients, and updates on safe sleep environments for a child.

The nursing director has been advised of two major projects at the state level that could significantly affect the health district. One is the billables project, which is a plan to capture a portion of the cost of children's immunizations from clients who have private health insurance or Medicaid. That means local health departments will have to set up a billables charge system. We would be required to report how many children have Medicaid and how many have private insurance. Mr. Mix stated that the new modules in the HDIS software system already have that capability.

The other project in the works is the Electronic Health Records. This project will allow sharing information about immunizations that are given at the Geauga County Health District. This must be in place by October 2013.

Because of the availability of excess Tdap, we ran a successful campaign to immunize adult caregivers. We administered 140 doses through this free program with assistance of the students from Kent State University Geauga.

At the last Board of Health meeting, the Board approved an agreement with St. Lucy's to rent space to hold the clinics for \$75.00 per quarter. Mr. Mix reported that this amount was incorrect and should have read \$75.00 per month. The Board was asked to approve an amended motion.

c. WIC

The caseload remained flat for the month.

WIC received an \$823.18 donation from Watson's Furniture in Middlefield. The staff sent a thank you letter to Watson's. The funds will be used to purchase supplies for KidsFest and to host a breastfeeding support group in Middlefield. The Board was asked to certify and appropriate the funds.

d. Community Health Assessments and State Health Assessments

On March 13, 2012, Mr. Mix participated in the Kent State University Health Fair in Burton by hosting an information table and presenting preliminary findings of the community health assessments. The MRC and WIC also set up information tables.

The final report will be presented April 18, 2012 at a community meeting in the library administrative building. The Board was invited to attend the meeting. Mrs. Livers asked Mr. Mix to send a reminder email.

Mr. Mix attended a State Health Improvement Plan meeting on March 7, 2012. The different workgroups identified priorities. They will be meeting again to look at all the information. There were a variety of partners participating.

Mr. Weisdack stated that he applied for and received a second CQI grant for \$10,000.00. Additional training will be received on March 21, 2012 in Columbus. The Board was asked to approve the CQI budget. Mr. Mix stated that the committee would work on the communication with the public through the web, news media and face-to-face. Dr. Moritz suggested having a poster that physicians can post in their offices with information about the health district.

IX. Old Business

a. Final 2013 Geauga County Health District Budget

Mr. Weisdack distributed the final 2013 Geauga County Health District budget and briefly reviewed it with the Board.

Mrs. Livers moved 3.12-a to approve the final 2013 Geauga County Health District Budget and the presentation of the budget at the annual meeting of the HDAC on March 28, 2012. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

X. Executive Session

Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 8:50 pm to discuss pending legal cases. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes. The Board returned from Executive Session and immediately went back in to discuss the Health Commissioner's evaluation. The meeting reconvened at 9:20 pm. Mr. Benenati stated the health commissioner's evaluation would be reviewed for typos and minor errors.

XI. New Business

Mr. Goergen moved 3.12-b to approve the amendment to motion 2.12-c for the St. Lucy's Rental Agreement from \$75.00 per quarter to \$75.00 per month. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 3.12-c to certify and appropriate WIC funds in an amount not to exceed \$823.18. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 3.12-d to approve the 2012 CQI Budget in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 (\$7,500.00 salaries & benefits and \$2,500.00 other direct costs. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Dr. Moritz provided information about how Tb is handled in Geauga County. One of the ways to test for Tb sometimes gives a false positive. He also explained what treatment patients receive if the test is positive. In other countries, there is a practice of giving a vaccine called BCE to prevent Tb. This practice does not work and causes the patient to test positive for the rest of their life. In the past, these patients would receive treatment for Tb.

There is now a new test called Quantiferon Gold, which determines if the patient is truly positive or due to the patient receiving the BCE vaccine. Hillcrest Hospital currently provides the Quantiferon Gold test. Dr. Moritz asked the Board to consider allowing the Quantiferon Gold test and covering the cost.

Mrs. Livers moved 3.12-e to approve the use of Quantiferon Gold Tb test in place of the less sensitive ppd Tubersol tuberculosis skin test for individuals presenting or referred to the Geauga County Health District for treatment of possible latent tuberculosis for whom the medical director

determines as appropriate. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Dr. Moritz explained that there are some patients who cannot take the usual regiment of Tb medicine for the nine months required. He stated that he has found another way to treat those patients that he would like the Board to consider. This treatment medication called Rifampin and INH is taken once per week for four months. It is a little more expensive but Dr. Moritz feels it would be best for the patients.

Mrs. Livers moved 3.12-f to approve the use of Rifampin (RIF) or an equivalent rifamycin-class antibiotic (RPT) as an alternative to INH alone, when deemed appropriate and necessary by the medical director. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

XII. Other Business

The Board and Mr. Weisdack stated that Ms. Eppich would be missed. Mrs. Livers asked Mr. Weisdack to develop a resolution of appreciation and having a plaque made for her. Mr. Weisdack stated he had already arranged to have a plaque made and planned on doing the resolution.

XIII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room of 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

XIV. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Weisdack, R.S., M.A., M.P.H.
Secretary of the Board

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